

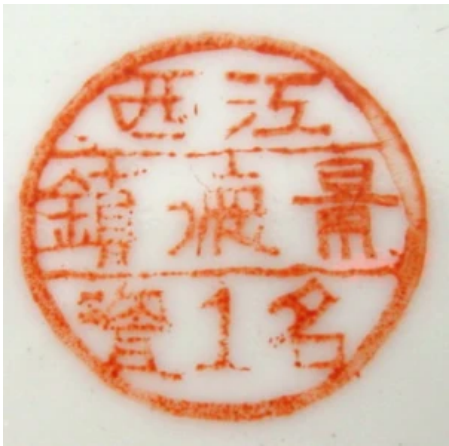
# An outline of PROC (People’s Republic of China) base marks on factory and other porcelain, 1949 – 2000

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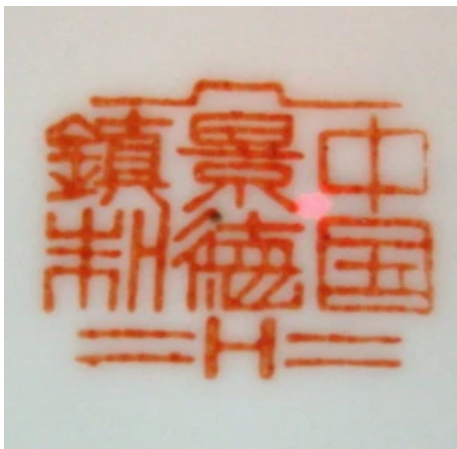
## THE BASICS –

In short, circle marks come before ‘letter’ marks, which in turn come before ‘number’ marks:



## 1950s-60s

Circle marks ‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Ming 1 Ci’ with numerals (range of numbers), (written right to left as shown or left to right, see other examples below)



## 1960s – 70s

‘Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Zhi =R=’ with letters (range of letters)



## 1980s onwards

Zhong Guo Jingdezhen ‘MADE IN CHINA’ =numeral=’ marks (range of numbers)

Please scroll down for more marks if yours is not here.....


### Introduction

When the communists under Mao Zedong took over from the Nationalists in 1949, a series of private/government partnerships for porcelain production were set up in Jingdezhen. Prior to that a proliferation of private companies had been operating in Jingdezhen, Nanchang, Jiujiang and many other centres in Jiangxi and other provinces since the end of WWII in 1945. By the mid-late 1950s most of these partnerships had been centralised into larger all-government co-operatives for the production of large scale factory-made porcelains. The large majority were porcelains made for export. At the same time, the new government set up Ceramic Teaching Schools and Institutes, from which more specialised and more exclusive porcelains were produced, ceramics artists trained and new technologies developed.

There are a great many base marks reflecting these changes, but by the mid-1950s and right up until the present, the number of different ones declined rapidly. That makes it simpler for us who want to date these marks, at least those that we find in the West. However, the base marks for porcelains made for the Chinese mainland during the 1950s changed almost monthly it would seem.

This report gives by no means a comprehensive list. There are many marks which I see on Chinese websites, which I have seldom or never seen in the west. Similarly, there are many porcelains, usually factory-made, which are common in the west and much rarer in China itself.

The Chinese researchers have outlined a general progression of porcelains through the 1950s and 1960s and beyond, but the marks which are shown are different and more varied to what we see in the west, and many have no ‘English’ words, emphasising their local use.

They also do not often show up on Chinese selling websites, so perhaps they are rare as well.

This base marks outline concentrates on the most common marks. Many of these we remember from our childhood (I ate quite a lot of Chinese restaurant food as a child.....). However, in China, everyone wants Cultural Revolution period porcelain (1966-1977) and so you find that much factory made porcelain, with ANY factory mark is called 'cultural revolution' porcelain, often when it is definitely NOT – it is either older or newer, **but the list below should be a more correct guide.**

Almost ALL PROC marks are stamped. Very rarely they are handwritten, and some of these will be listed as well. If authentic, handwritten marks mean that the porcelain is made for a special order and/or is extremely rare. Many of the handwritten marks are found on the ceramic institute pieces and include a handwritten date on the base.

You can find a very comprehensive list of Later Chinese marks, some of which are PROC, on the Gotheborg website – <http://www.gotheborg.com/marks/20thcenturychina.shtml>

Most PROC porcelain was made in Jingdezhen, up until the 1980s or so. I have observed that, in general, the porcelain is marked with the characters 'Jing' 'De' 'Zhen', if this is the case. Other manufacturing places either put their place name on the porcelain, i.e. 'Liling' (in English or Chinese) and/or just use the characters 'Zhong' 'Guo' – 中国. In the latter case, it is impossible in most cases to know where in China the piece was manufactured, at least at the moment.

**Most of the production of the PROC is daily use porcelain. Millions of these wares were exported around the world. However, high end porcelains were also produced, even though most can only be found in books, from Chinese mainland museums and private collections. It is very rare to find these outside China, with the exceptions of a few 1950s examples, which in turn were still made in small numbers and carry studio or Institute marks.**

**Below is a more comprehensive list than the SUMMARY above:**

## **1. 1950s (and into the early 1960s) - NOT Cultural Revolution**

**NOTE:** All circle marks are NOT necessarily PROC, a very many are Late Republic. In general, and as a hypothesis, if the circle mark doesn't have 'Jingdezhen' characters 景德镇 but has a similar style, with private company characters instead, then it is most likely to be late Republic or very earliest 1950s (i.e. just before the government changed all these to state run conglomerates) – you will find some early 1950s exceptions to this hypothesis (convenience) in the sections below.

*‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Ming (number) Ci’ within a circle which is divided into 3 sections  
(The 5<sup>th</sup> mark also has ‘Hao Cai’ on either side of the number).*

Some examples don’t have any numbers, some are written left to right, others right to left.

*‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Ming (number) Ci’, no outline or border. These last marks have no number and are considered transitional between the end of the Republic to mid 1950s.*

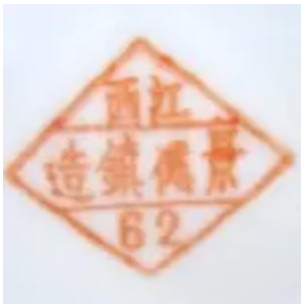
*‘Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Chu (number) Pin’*



*‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Ming (number) Ci’ within a circle which is divided into 3 sections,  
with a ‘CHINA’ mark stamped.*



*‘Jiangxi Sheng Jingdezhen Shi Gong Yi Mei Shu He Zuo Gong Chang’ – “Jiangxi Province, Jingdezhen City, Arts and Crafts Cooperative Factory”. This arch style of mark was also handwritten on special porcelains during this period. Many copies of this and especially the handwritten style are now being made. A couple of authentic examples are shown further into this report.*



*‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Zao (number)’ within a diamond border divided into 3 sections. This is an uncommon mark in that many diamond shaped marks are late Republic and have company or studio names rather than the generic ‘Jingdezhen’ characters.*



*‘Jiangxi Hua Ci Gong Ren Sheng Chan Wu Chang Chu Pin’*

*‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Ming 1 Ci’ and ‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Chu 1 Pin’, these double circles are less common, possibly very early 1950s.*

*‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Ming Ci (numeral)’, double circles and the number is in its own section. In addition, the ‘Jiangxi’ characters are in a seal-like script which fit into the top arc of the circle border.*



*‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Zao’ All characters are in a seal-like script which fit into the circle border.*



*‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Chu Pin’*

*‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Zao Chu Pin’*



*‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Di Yi Ci (chang) Chu Pin’*



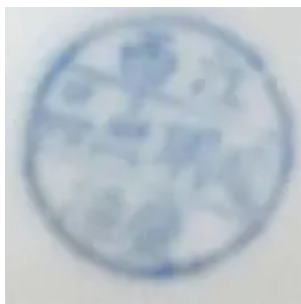
**Dated 1950-55** ‘Jingdezhen Shi Mei Shu Tao Ci Gong Yi She’



**Dated 1950s-70s** ‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Shi Di Yi Hua Ci Gong Ye Shengchan Hezuoshe’  
(First Co-operative of Painted Ceramics of Jingdezhen, Jiangxi)



**Dated 1959** BR\_861\_5 ‘Jingdezhen ? Gong ??? Mei Chu Pin’



**Dated 1952** BBSA8 ‘Jiangxi ?? Chu Pin ??’ circle mark in  
overglaze blue



‘Jiangxi Ming Ci’ – this mark is mainly found on late Republic examples, but a small few could have been made into the early 1950s.





*'Jiangxi Chu Pin' – this mark is mainly found on late Republic examples, but a small few could have been made into the early 1950s.*



*'Jiangxi Zhen Pin' – this mark is mainly found on late Republic examples, but a small few could have been made into the early 1950s.*

## 2. 1960s (and into the 1970s) – these marks cover 'Cultural Revolution' period, although they were used over a slightly longer period.

*These marks above have the distinctive bracket at the top, then in three columns of two characters 'Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Zhi', then = letter=' . This is the classic mark for the 'Cultural Revolution' period (1966-1976). A full report on this style of mark can be found [here](#) – it is called " =D= "Factory" (艺术瓷厂) Chinese People's Republic of China (PROC) Porcelains and their correlates"*



**Dated 1956** Wang Yijun (artist), 'Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Zhi =D=' mark, **HANDWRITTEN**. *This piece is a special high end example and is the earliest example I have found with this mark (most are 1960s to early 1970s). All later similar marks are stamped, and are often on more prosaic pieces. Still, many uncommon patterns bear this mark, and it is in my opinion the most interesting 'common' mark of the PROC.*

As an aside, I recently saw this little sauce dish in Georgetown, Penang, Malaysia. The leaves of the bush and the outline of the boat are stamped, the rest is handpainted.



The seller told me that he bought these for his shop in Penang in 1962, and these were the last that he had. Even though the shop was brimming with porcelain from all decades of the C20th and C21st and even older, I bet he knew when he had imported every single one since the 1950s or 1960s!

This example below gives a further understanding of the time range of this mark.



*Same as above but with a number rather than a letter. Not common.*

*These 'Hong Kong' marks occur from the 1960s into the 1980s. Most are of a standard below those of the mainland, enamels very scrappily applied. However, there are a few examples with beautiful painting and enamelling.*



*This mark is on a bowl which has an inscription dated to 1966. The numbers probably represent a phone number!*

### 3. 1970s, perhaps into the 1980s



*‘Zhong Guo Zhi Zao MADE IN CHINA’ in a lozenge red outline, and a cup! These marks occur on a number of porcelains with a set range of patterns. One type has a cartouche with a date to 1973.*



*‘Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Gu ? Ci Chang = letter =’.*

*‘Zhong Guo Jingdezhen CHINA = letter or number =’.*

**4. 1980s and beyond**

**4A:**

*‘Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Zhi’ red, stamped, in a double square outline – very common mark. The marks below have inscriptions with dates which range from **1979 to 1996**.*



**Dated 1979**



**Dated 1980**



*Dated 1983*



*Dated 1983*



*Dated 1983*



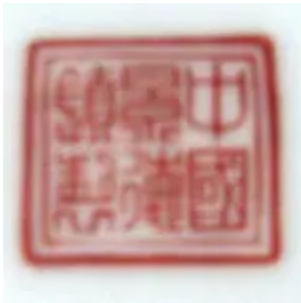
*Dated 1983*



*Dated 1982*



*Dated 1983*



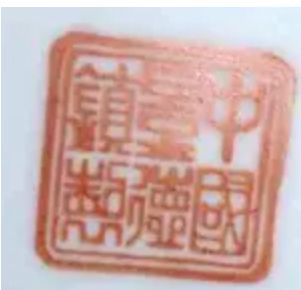
*Dated 1984*



*Dated 1985*



*Dated 1986*



*Dated 1989*



**Dated 1987** 'Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Zhi' (Zeng's Collection Book)



**Dated 1990**



**Dated 1996**

**4B:**

'Zhong Guo Jingdezhen MADE IN CHINA = number ='. Dated examples below:



**Dated 1981**



**Dated 1983**



**Dated 1986**

**4C:**

*1980s to present – ‘Zhong Guo Zhi Zao MADE IN CHINA’. These pieces were probably not made in Jingdezhen. I can’t quite believe my eyes, but two of these marks are handwritten!*

**4D:**

*‘Zhong Guo Jingdezhen MADE IN CHINA’ – no numbers or letters. My general understanding is that these may be late 1970s into early 1980s.*

**4E:**

|

*‘Zhong Guo Jingdezhen MADE IN CHINA = letter =. These marks with letters rather than numbers may indicate a different factory or probably even pre-date the pieces with numbers. This earlier possible dating is backed up by data shown in Section 7, part C below.*

**4F:**

*The key fret mark border was also used in the early Republic period, but the pieces are completely different and private studio characters are used rather than the ‘Zhong Guo’ ones here.*

**4G:**



*'Zhong Guo Zhi Zao MADE IN CHINA 3' overglaze blue, probably 1990s*

#### **4H: Wan Yu Marks** (Wan - to play with, Yu – jade = Antique)

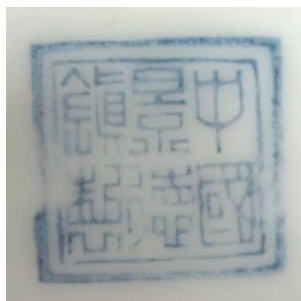


**Dated 1988** *'Wan Yu', dated in inscription*

*These underglaze blue 'wan yu' marked pieces are the classic 'rice grain' porcelains, made in Jingdezhen and other places throughout the C20th, but mass produced in the PRC and exported worldwide. 'Rice grain' porcelain had this mark until about the late 1970s, after which 'Zhong Guo MADE IN CHINA' marks proliferated.*

### **5. PRC in general:-**

*These marks are grouped because of the green or black subsidiary mark – 'MADE IN CHINA' OR 'CHINA' – which is quite distinctive. Not sure of dating range but c. 1960s- 1990s.*



*'Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Zhi' in overglaze blue*

*'Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Zhi' in underglaze blue*





**PROC** ‘Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Zhi’ (Zeng’s Collection Book)



‘Zhong Guo MADE IN CHINA’ – this mark was used on ‘rice grain’ and other wares from about the 1980s onwards.



‘Zhong Guo Taoci’



“Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Zhi”, this mark also used on ‘rice grain’ pieces.



‘Zhong Guo Xinxiang’ dating post 1990



**Dated 1978** 'Zhong Hua Taoci' Possibly made in Taiwan.....



**Dated 1982** 'Zhong Guo Jiangxi'

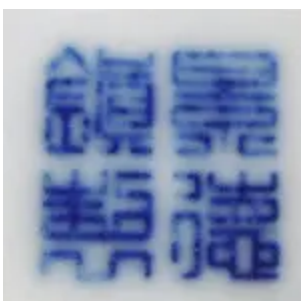


'Zhong Guo Gaopei MADE IN CHINA'



'Zhong Guo Zhi Zao MADE IN CHINA' – from those brown glazed teapots and bowls!

**Jingdezhen Zhi marks** – these cover a huge date range, from the 1950s to 1995 at least. Each piece has to be attributed individually. Dated pieces are further below.



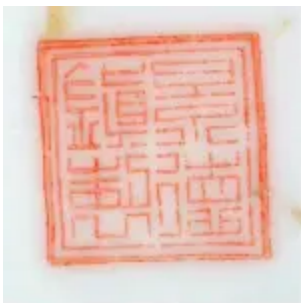
*underglaze blue*



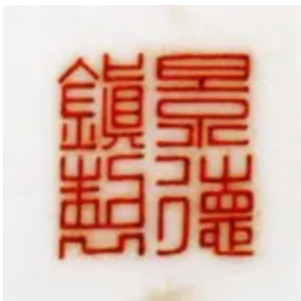
*red on gold, double square  
border*



*Handwritten red*



*stamped red double square border*



***Dated 1958-65*** Liu Yucen (artist)



***Dated 1974*** Hu Xianya (artist), seal mark ‘Jingdezhen Zhi’ in underglaze blue



***Dated 1975*** seal mark ‘Jingdezhen Zhi’ on 7501 Porcelain, made for Mao Zedong (Zeng’s Collection Book) – a very famous and rare mark, when authentic.



***Dated 1978***



***Dated 1986***



***Dated 1995***

**Ya Wan Zhen Cang marks** – Yawan Collection. These marks occur on a range of special one-off pieces, artist signed etc and also on very high quality factory wares. Dating is a bit difficult, with the handwritten marked pieces etc produced in the 1950s and later (often overglaze blue) ones perhaps into the 1960s.

*Ya Wan Zheng Cang marks in stamped overglaze blue*

*The last mark from the Peter Wain Collection (UK)*



***Dated 1963***



***Dated 1955-59 'Ya Wan Zhen Cang' (Ya Wan Collection)***



***ZC\_PROC 'Ya Wan Zhen Cang' (Ya Wan Collection)***

**Qing Dynasty Reign Marks** – Qing Dynasty marks are found on many PROC wares. There must have been periods when this was politically unwise, but I haven't been able to find out more. My feeling is that they were used in the 1950s/early 1960s, then stopped, and then used again in the 1980s and since.

### **Kangxi marks**

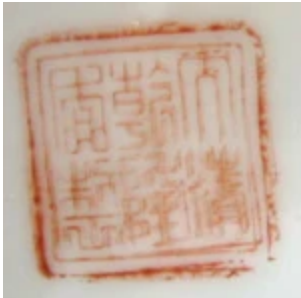
*Kangxi Nian Zhi marks in a single square, with very different characteristics to Republic Period Kangxi marks (stamped, thin, single square outline and almost always red).*



*‘Da Qing Kangxi Nian Zhi’ handwritten*

**Qianlong marks** – a range of different mark and composition styles

Qianlong seal marks, 4 and 6 characters, also very common. These have very different characteristics compared to Republic Period Qianlong marks (stamped, and with a double square outline, often rounded at corners). Probably most are from the 1980s onwards.



*‘Da Qing Qianlong Nian Zhi’*

*‘Qianlong Nian Zhi’*



***Dated 1956***



***Dated 1992***



***Dated 1995***





***Dated 1999***

Qianlong kaishu marks, 4 character usually, a range of styles, need to use all aspects of piece to date to PROC, mark alone not enough. However, I believe this mark was used early in the PROC until the late 1950s, and then again from the 1980s onwards.



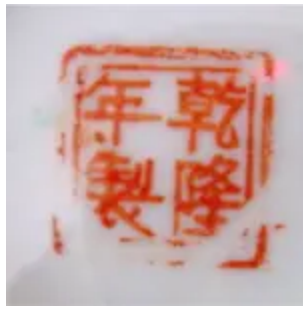
***Dated 1958***



***Dated 1958***



***Dated 1958*** These 3 underglaze blue Qianlong marks exhibit a distinctive, squat style and rounded corners of the double square outline. I have never seen this style on Republic period pieces.



***Dated 1995***

**Guangxu** – These six character kaishu Guangxu marks below are stamped and all belong to sets of porcelain which I have dated to the 1960s. However, the stamped Guangxu marks have been used throughout the C20th. Please note that similar marks occur on porcelains from the Republic period as well, but the marks and the porcelains themselves show different characteristics, mark alone not enough.

## 6. Other Marks

*'MADE IN CHINA' marks are still found on PROC porcelains, but they are not common.*

*Liling, Hunan. Liling companies produced innovative wares in the early C20th, but with very different characteristics. These marks are from their well-made factory wares from the 1960-70s onwards.*

*These 'DECORATED IN HONG KONG' marked pieces were high-fired in China or Japan and then enamelled (decorated) in Hong Kong.*



*'CHINA' marks are still used during the PROC but much less commonly than in the Republic period. From what I have seen the letters are usually a bit thicker than earlier in the century.*



*Found on thickly potted export ware, produced mainly for western Chinese restaurants.*



***Dated 1978***



*Two goats and bottle crest mark, likely post 1980s*



*This mark found on a porcelain spoon.*



*‘Zhong Guo Tangshan TANG SHAN CHINA’ – Tangshan, Hebei, another porcelain manufacturing city, producing some high quality wares.*

For many more ‘other’ marks from the 1950s to present please refer to the Gotheborg marks website – <http://www.gotheborg.com/marks/20thcenturychina.shtml> and scroll through (some of these are earlier than PROC).

**7. Marks on Chinese internal market porcelain** – usually all Chinese characters, no English.

These marks below are usually handwritten, this indicating high-end specially made porcelains. The examples in Part B are found in museums or private collections, mainly in China and Hong Kong. They are seldom seen in the west or other parts of Asia. Part C shows a range of marks from daily use porcelain which have come from a Chinese report. These latter would have been made for the mainland China market but I have only seen the marks, not the pieces that they came from. A few are marks used in the west as well.

**PART A:** Firstly, a series of private company marks which were made in the early part of the PROC period, before they were eventually incorporated into the Government system.



**1954** BR\_1295\_5 'Li Hua Ciye Gongsi' – this company has been in existence since the mid Republic. Most 'Li Hua' marks from the Republic are handwritten, rather than stamped as this one. It is interesting to see that this company was still producing this late into the 1950s.



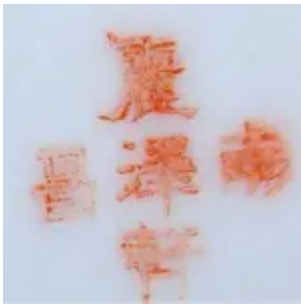
**Dated 1950**



**Dated 1951** 'Jiangxi Xin Zhong Hua Chu Pin' – **note:** this is a Nanchang company, and up until 1949/50 used the Nanchang characters instead of the Jiangxi characters – so a good dating tool.



**Dated 1953** – ‘Jiangxi Ling Mei Cai Chu Pin’



**Dated 1954** ‘Nanchang Lize Xuan’ – this mark, when handwritten in a distinctive script, is pre 1949. Another good dating tool.



**Dated 1951**



**Dated 1952** These two Nanchang marks indicate that this particular ‘Nanchang Da Hua’ company/shop/studio was producing wares into the early part of the 1950s.

**PART B:** The following marks, in the main, are found on higher-end pieces, either by renowned artists or made within the Institutes and Schools set up by government early in the 1950s. Many dates are found as part of the base mark, the rest from inscriptions on the body of the porcelain.

**Most of these examples in this part are from published (book) sources.**



**Dated 1950** ‘Jiang Xi Jing Zhen Ming Xing Ci She’



**Dated 1950** ‘Jingdezhen Ciye Gongsi’ (Jingdezhen Porcelain Company)



**Dated 1951**



**Dated 1951**



**Dated 1952**

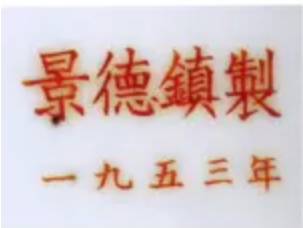




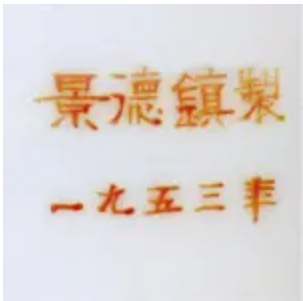
**Dated April 1953** ‘Jing Zhen Sheng Li Mei Shu Ci She’ – Cheng Deng Jin (artist)



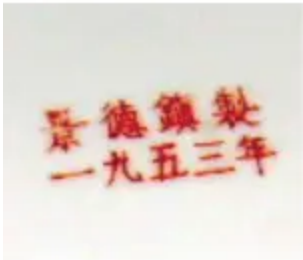
**Dated 1953** Yu Hanqing (artist), ‘Jingdezhen Zhi 1953 Nian’



**Dated 1953** Zhang Zhitang (artist), ‘Jingdezhen Zhi 1953 Nian’



**Dated 1953** Shi Yuchu (artist, 1909-1972), ‘Jingdezhen Zhi 1953 Nian’



**Dated 1953**



**Dated 1950-58** Wang Dafan (artist), 'Xiping Caolu' mark



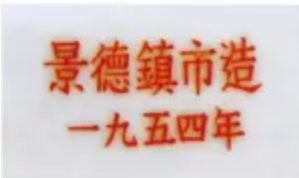
**Dated 1953** Wang Dafan (artist), 'Xiping Caolu' mark



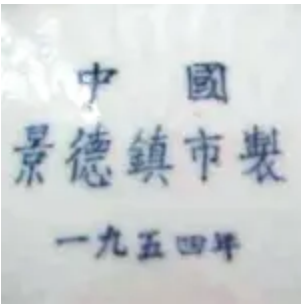
**Dated 1953** BR\_993\_1 Wang Bu Chrysanthemum example mark (or Wang Bu's son)



**Dated 1953**



**Dated 1954** Xu Cheng (artist), 'Jingdezhen Shi Zao 1954 made'



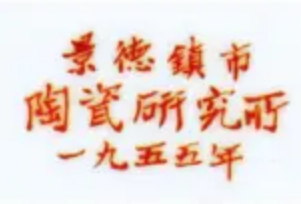
**Dated 1954** ‘Zhong Guo Jingdezhen Shi Zhi 1954 Nian’



**Dated 1950-55** Huang Xiaocun (artist) – ‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Dong Feng Ci Chang Chu Pin’



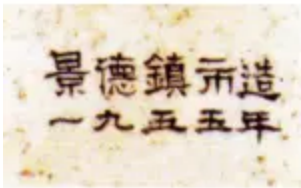
**Dated 1955** Zhang Zhitang (artist), ‘Jingdezhen Shi Taoci Yanjiusuo’ (Jingdezhen Institute of Ceramics)



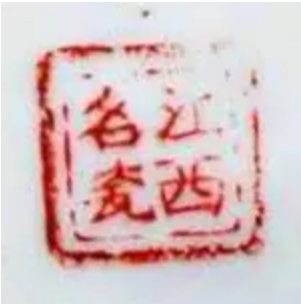
**Dated 1955** Zhang Zhitang (artist), ‘Jingdezhen Shi Taoci Yanjiusuo’ (Jingdezhen Institute of Ceramics)



**Dated 1955** Wang Bu (artist), ‘Jingdezhen Shi Taoci Shiyan Yanjiusuo’ (Jingdezhen Laboratorial Research Institute of Ceramics)



**Dated 1955** ‘Jingdezhen Shi Zao 1955 Nian’



**Dated 1955** ‘Jiangxi Ming Ci’ in a double red square



**Dated 1950-58** Liu Yucen (artist), ‘Jue’an’ mark



**Dated 1955-58** ‘Jiangxi Taoxiao Jingzhi’ (finely made by Jiangxi Ceramics School)



**Dated 1955-1959** ‘Qianlong Yu Zhi’. These overglaze blue ‘Song Style’ handwritten marks were used primarily in the Republic period, but some artists obviously used them into the PROC period as well. You can see a distinctive set of 1958 dated marks above in the reign mark section. They exhibit a more squat style and rounded corners of the double square outline.



**Dated 1955-59** Huang Xiaocun (artist), ‘Jingdezhen Shi Yishu Cichang Chu Pin’ (Product of Jingdezhen Art Ceramic Factory)



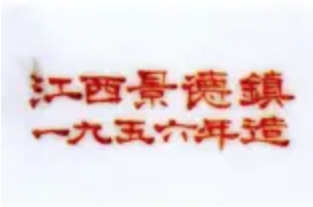
**Dated 1956** Tao Dingnai & Duan Qingshun (artists), ‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen 1956 Nian Zao’ and their signatures



**Dated 1956** Gong Yaoting (artist), ‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen 1956 Nian Zao’



**Dated 1956** ‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen 1956 Nian Zao’



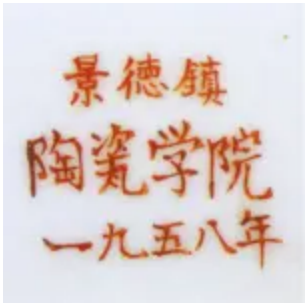
**Dated 1956** Tao Dingnai & Duan Qingshun (artists), ‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen 1956 Nian Zao’



**Dated 1956** ‘Jing Wei Tang Zhi’



**Dated 1957** Wang Dafan (artist), ‘Jingdezhen Si Taoci Yanjiusuo’ (Jingdezhen Institute of Ceramics)



**Dated 1958** Xiong Xiaofeng (artist), ‘Jingdezhen Taoci Xueyuan 1958 Nian’ (Jingdezhen Ceramic College)



**Dated 1958** ‘Jingdezhen City, tester in 1958’





**Dated 1958** 'Jingdezhen Shi Taoci Yanjiusuo 1958 Nian' (Jingdezhen Municipal Ceramics Research Institute)



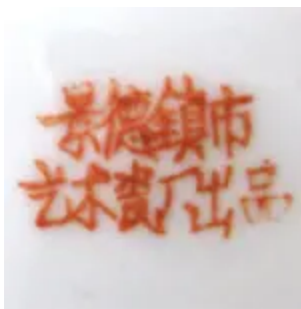
**Dated 1958** BR\_798\_4 'Hunan Hong Jiang Ci Chang Zhi', Made by the Hongjiang Porcelain Factory, Hunan (province)



**Dated 1959** Yu Wenxiang (artist), 'Jingdezhen' mark in green enamel



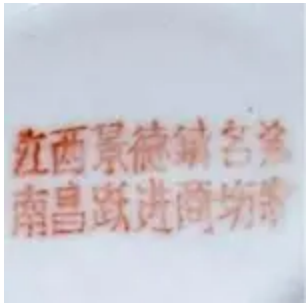
**Dated 1959** ZC\_6 'Zhong Guo Jingdezhen 1959 Nian'



**PROC c. 1950s/60s** 'Jingdezhen Shi Ci Shu Yi Chang Chu Pin'



**PROC c. 1950s/60s** ‘Jingdezhen Shi Ci Shu Yi Chang Chu Pin’



**PROC c. 1950s/60s** ‘Jiangxi Jingdezhen Ming Ci Nanchang Yue Jin Shang ? Zhi’ (Made by the Jiangxi Jingdezhen Famous Porcelain Nanchang Great Leap (Forward) Commercial ?)



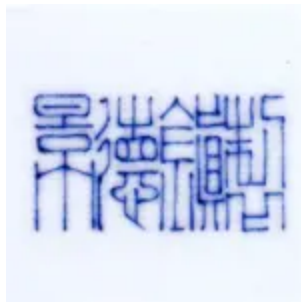
**Dated 1958-65** Liu Yucen (artist), ‘Jingdezhen Tao Yan Suo’ (Jingdezhen Institute of Ceramics)



**Dated 1950s-early 1960s** ‘Qing Hua Zhen Pin’ (a piece of fine work)



**Dated 1960-65** Gong Yaoting & Wu Chengren (artists), ‘Jingdezhen Tao Yansuo’ (Jingdezhen Institute of Ceramics)



**Dated 1963** Wang Bu (artist), ‘Jingdezhen Zhi’ mark



**Dated 1963** ‘Jingdezhen Yishu Ci Chang (or cichang) Chu Pin’ (Product of the Jingdezhen Art(Craft) Porcelain Factory)



**Dated 1964** Deng Biji (artist’s name, surname Deng) Studio/Artist’s mark



**Dated 1969** ‘Jingdezhen Yishu Cichang ?? 1969 (Jingdezhen Art(Craft) Porcelain Factory)



**Dated 1981** Purchased early 1980s, ‘Yishu Cichang Mei(shu) Yan(jiu) Shi/ 1981/ Chu Pin’ (Product of the Craft Porcelain Factory’s Art Research Office, 1981)



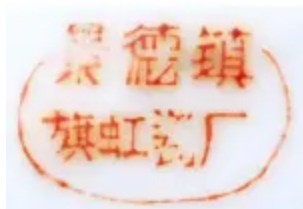
***Dated 1981***



***Dated 1981 'Zhong Guo Jiangxi'***



***Dated 1987 'Jingdezhen Zhi'***



***Dated 1992 'Jingdezhen Qi Hong Cichang' (Jingdezhen "Colorful Flag" Porcelain Factory)***

**PART C:** This group of marks comes from a Chinese website, Artron, and was written by Mr Er Yi Tang in 2013 – (I did put in a link here, but it says the post has been deleted....)

Most of the earlier marks are not seen in the west. A few later ones are often seen on daily use porcelains in the west. In general, the dating of these marks is very similar to the datings in the report above.

A good number of mark examples which I have shown in the report above are absent from this listing. This may be because these porcelains were exported to the west and seldom seen in China?

**c. 1949-57**

This group from the first 8 years of the PROC shows that underglaze blue ‘Jingdezhen Zhi’ marks did start to appear in the 1950s, as alluded to above. It also shows a large array of circle outline marks, some with private company characters, but most with Jingdezhen or Jing Zhen characters. Many also look to have some school or institute association. The last one shows a Qianlong kaishu mark in 2 rows of 3 instead of 2 columns of three characters, I have seen this before and now have some idea of dating.

**c.1958-1961**

This small group shows that circle outline marks were perhaps still used in 1960/61.

**c.1962-79**

This group covers the Cultural Revolution period and a few years either side. Note that underglaze blue ‘Jingdezhen Zhi’ marks are here as well, so their range is broad – 1950s-1990s.

**c. 1980s**



I hope that this has given you some insight into People’s Republic of China marks. I am sure many are missing, but feel that the general core is covered. Have fun dating your pieces!

As usual, please remember that there are many copies and outright fakes around, especially for the high-end early PROC pieces. Some of them are very convincing, but fall down on mark colour (too pale or too red) and/or enamels (too thin or too bright).

Best wishes, Michaela Russell, Sydney, Australia

And thanks to David Lane, Koh Nai King, Simon Ng, Chng Ht and others for their wondrous translating skills!

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